(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Centre has considered the recommendations of the Law Commission; and

(d) whether Government have now decided to introduce any Bill in this behalf?

THE MJNISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) The Government had referred the Foreigners (Amendment) Bill, 1998 to the Law Commission seeking its recommendations. The Law Commission gave its report in September, 2000. The main suggestions made by the Commission with regard to detection and deportation of illegal migrants in the country included establishment of Immigration Tribunals, establishment of Special Courts, creation of a separate Immigration Cadre, enhancement of penalty of imprisonment for the violation of the provisions of the Foreigners Act from the existing maximum of five years to eight years.

The Government has accepted the recommendation relating to enhancement of penalty which already finds a place in the Foreigners (Amendment) Bill, 1998. Government has not felt it necessary to incorporate the other amendments. It has, therefore, been decided to pursue the Bill already introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

Uplifting of BPL families under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana

†*354. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring each family under "Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana"; and

(b) if so, the number of families in the muzaffarpur district of

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Bihar which have been uplifted from Below Poverty Line (BPL) since 1999 till date under "Swamjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana" and the help provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) The objective of the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the Poverty Line by organising them into Self Help Groups (SHGs) through the process of social mobilization, their training and capacity building and provision of income-generating assets through a mix of Bank Credit and Government Subsidy. The Programme Guidelines (issued in April, 1999) provided for coverage of 30% of the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, in the coming five years, and the actual coverage of families would, *inter-alia*, depend upon the availability of funds.

2. The SGSY being a process oriented Scheme, much time was utilized in the first and second years (1999-2000 and 2000-2001) for sensitization of personnel, including Bank functionaries, involved in the implementation of the Programme, selection of Key Activities, preparation of Project profiles and constitution of Committees. Under the Scheme, a Group becomes eligible for economic assistance after qualifying in the second Grading Test, conducted one year after the formation of the Group. As per the Scheme Guidelines, the Swarozgaris are exptected to require a minimum of three years to cross the Poverty Line, after receiving financial assistance for an economic activity.

3. The programme has just completed three years, since its inception. The number of families (Swarozgaris) assisted under the Scheme in Muzaffarpur District (Bihar) during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 and the assistance are mentioned in the Statement.

Statement

Total Swarozgaris Assisted and Total Investment under the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana in Muzaffarpur District of Bihar during 1999-00, 2000-01 and 2001-02

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Total Swarozgaris Assisted (Numbers)	Credit Disbursed	Subsidy Disbursed	Total Investment
1999-2000	2610	336.08	142.40	478.48
2000-01	6054	610.64	248.71	859.35
2001-02	6572	591.32	278.10	869.42
TOTAL:	15236	1538.04	669.21	2207.25

Restructuring the Power Sector

*355. SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the power sector is facing do or die situation;

(b) if so, what steps the Ministry are taking or propose to take to restructure the power sector to make it commercially viable;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the SEBs losses amount to 1.8 per cent of the GDP of the country; and

(d) if so, how the Ministry propose to recover the dues from the SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (d) Power sector is passing through a critical phase. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at current price during the year 2000-01 was Rs. 18,78,429 crores. As against this cumulative commercial losses of SEBs upto March, 2001 (without subsidies) were Rs. 26,013 crores (1.38 per cent of GDP).

Government of India has recently approved a scheme for liquidating the present and future outstanding dues of the CPSUs against SEBs. Under the scheme 60% of the interest/surcharge on